

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-20 are pending in the present application. Claims 1 and 20 are amended by the present amendment to correct cosmetic matters of form only. Applicants respectfully withdrawn the amendment filed January 4, 2006. This amendment is presented to make the claims consistent with the amendment filed August 5, 2005 as discussed with the Examiner by telephone on January 23, 2006. No new matter is added.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 2, 3 and 8 stand objected to under 37 C.F.R. § 1.75(a) for informalities; Claim 20 stands objected to under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph; Claim 20 stands objected to under 35 U.S.C. § 101; and Claims 1, 4-7 and 9-19 stand allowed.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter.

REJECTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.75(a)

Claims 2, 3 and 8 have been amended to address the informalities in Claims 2, 3 and 8. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of Claims 2, 3 and 8 be withdrawn.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claim 20 has been rewritten in independent form to address the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of Claim 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 112 be withdrawn.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 101

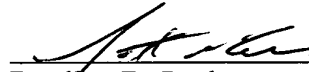
Claim 20 has been amended to be in the proper format for a computer implemented method claim. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of Claim 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

Consequently, in light of the above discussion and in view of the present amendment, the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance and an early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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